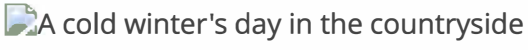
Freezing weather gradually eases



23 January 2013 - Met Office forecasters are predicting that the cold weather will continue until the weekend, with some very cold nights in store.

Met Office Severe Weather Warnings have been issued for the ice and snow. Yellow warnings are in place across parts of the UK, and the public are advised to keep up to date with the latest forecasts and warnings and plan ahead if they are travelling. Met Office weather warnings help you plan, prepare and protect yourself and others from the impacts of severe weather.

Paul Gundersen, Met Office Chief Forecaster, said: "The weather will stay very cold, but mostly dry through the rest of the week with severe frosts and patchy fog at night continuing to make it very icy.

"Everyone should continue to be aware of severe weather over the next few days and should plan ahead to take account of possible travel delays or disruption."

Darron Burness, the AA's Head of Special Operations, says: "With freezing conditions set to continue till the weekend, ice is going to be the biggest ongoing hazard over the next few days. Even if your car's thermometer shows the air temperature above freezing, bear in mind that the ground takes longer to thaw out, so ice is still a risk. Wherever you're travelling this week, stick to the gritted main roads where possible and check the Met Office weather alerts and traffic reports before departing."

On Friday many places, especially the north and east of the UK, can expect to see further snow falls and icy conditions. However, there are signs that the cold air over Britain will finally be replaced by milder air from the Atlantic as we go through the weekend. This change will introduce outbreaks of rain and strong winds but also some drier brighter conditions at times.

With the resulting combination of a thaw of lying snow and the risk of heavy rain there is inevitably an increased risk of flooding in some areas. The Met Office and Environment Agency are monitoring the situation very closely and we would advise everyone to stay up to date with the latest weather forecasts, severe weather warnings, and flood warnings.

By thinking ahead we can all be better prepared for severe weather. Throughout the winter, the Met Office works with agencies across the UK to help keep the country safe, well and on the move.

Contact information

Met Office Press Office: **+44 (0)1392 886655**

E-mail: Press Office

Met Office Customer Centre: **01392 885680**

If you're outside the UK: **+44 1392 885680**

Last updated: 23 January 2013